

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00215 100948Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O R 100901Z JAN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1974

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

S E C R E T SEOUL 215

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS KN

SUBJECT: ROK PROPOSAL FOR NON-AGGRESSION PACT

REF: STATE 004420

1. IN ACCORDANCE REFTEL, CHARGE INFORMED FONMIN KIM MORNING JAN 10 THAT USG CONCURS WITH PRESIDENT PARK'S INTENTION TO PROPOSE NON-AGGRESSION PACT WITH NORTH KOREA DURING COURSE OF PRESIDENT'S FORTHCOMING PRESS CONFERENCE. NEWLY DESIGNATED AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR LEE SANG-OCK ALSO PRESENT.

2. FONMIN EXPRESSED VIEW THAT NORTH KOREANS WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO SEE ANY ADVANTAGE IN ACCEPTING CHANG KI-YONG'S CALL FOR EARLY RESUMPTION OF SOUTH-NORTH MEETING. INSTEAD, HE FELT IT MUCH MORE LIKELY THAT NORTH KOREANS WOULD ATTEMPT TO EXTRACT PROPAGANDA ADVANTAGE FROM POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES WHICH HAD FORCED ROK TO INSTITUTE EMERGENCY MEASURES. HE THEREFORE THOUGHT IT LIKELY THAT NORTH KOREANS WOULD RESPOND TO PROPOSAL OF NON-AGGRESSION PACT WITH PROPAGANDA BLAST IN WHICH THEY WOULD DISMISS NON-AGGRESSION PACT AS IMPOSSIBILITY WITHOUT PRIOR OR AT LEAST CONCURRENT AGREEMENT ON MEASURES THEY HAVE RAISED BEFORE, SUCH AS DISSOLUTION OF UN COMMAND, WITHDRAWAL OF US FORCES, PEACE TREATY, ETC. HE DID

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SEOUL 00215 100948Z

NOT FEEL THAT THEY WOULD WAIT TO EXPLORE THESE SUBJECTS

AT CONFERENCE TABLE. HE SAID THAT HE THEREFORE INTENDED TO RECOMMEND TODAY TO PRESIDENT PARK THAT THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL CONTAIN A STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT ROKG WOULD BE WILLING TO ADDRESS THESE QUESTIONS AFTER GOOD FAITH OF NORTH KOREANS HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED THROUGH ACCEPTANCE OF NON-AGGRESSION PACT.

3. CHARGE REPLIED THAT ATTEMPT TO PREEMPT NORTH KOREAN PROPAGANDA RESPONSE APPEARED SENSIBLE, BUT ASKED THAT WE BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY EXAMINE ANY ADDITION TO THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED REMARKS THAT WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY MODIFY ROK POSITION AS PREVIOUSLY CONVEYED TO US, PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS UNC AND ARMISTICE AGREEMENT. FONMIN AGREED THAT WE WOULD HAVE THAT OPPORTUNITY.

4. FONMIN WAS UNCERTAIN AS TO WHEN PRESIDENTIAL PRESS CONFERENCE WOULD BE HELD, BUT SAID THAT IT COULD NOW OCCUR ANY TIME ON OR AFTER JAN 11.

5. FONMIN INQUIRED REGARDING STATUS OF US THINKING ON QUESTION OF UN COMMAND AND MEANS BY WHICH DMZ AND ARMISTICE AGREEMENT MIGHT BE MAINTAINED. CHARGE RESPONDED THAT AS FAR AS HE KNEW THESE SUBJECTS WERE UNDER STUDY IN WASHINGTON AND THAT WE NOT NOW PREPARED TO DISCUSS IT.

6. FONMIN ASKED THAT FOLLOWING PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROPOSAL FOR NON-AGGRESSION PACT, DEPT ARRANGE TO HAVE SPOKESMAN EXPRESS USG SUPPORT FOR THIS CONCEPT.  
ERICSON

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